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All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

Fresh from winning a \$2 The FBI?? Arrogant?? How Dare You!

Fresh from winning a \$2 million settlement from the FBI, attorney Gerry Spence warned Tuesday of growing fascism in America.

Spence, who has made a career championing the common man and underdogs, was the lead attorney in a case brought by Oregon lawyer Brandon Mayfield for his arrest in the 2004 bombing that killed 191 people in Spain. The FBI said Mayfield's fingerprints came close to matching a print found on a bag connected to the attack.

The settlement was announced, but the flamboyant Spence has been missing from many of the news reports. In a telephone interview from his Jackson Hole home, Spence said, "It's a very frightening time in our country....What happens is that the corporate king, or the government-corporate king, the two combined, [are] leading us into fascism."

Spence secured an apology from the FBI and will be able to continue a case challenging the Patriot Act. He said, however, that the mainstream media is shunning his warnings and that a Congressional committee dis-invited him from testifying about the Patriot Act.

The FBI received a copy of Mayfield's print through Interpol, the international police agency. Among the prints in the FBI's database were Mayfield's, on file since his service in the military. Mayfield's was the fourth-best match, but he shot to the top of the list, Spence said.

He characterized Mayfield as "a Kansas farm boy who married an Egyptian woman." Mayfield converted to Islam.

"[The FBI] alleged he had represented a known Muslim terrorist," Spence said. "In fact, his representation was only on a child custody matter. They arrested him primarily because he was a Muslim."

"They got a secret warrant and came to Mayfield's house and broke in like common burglars," Spence said, but those famous FBI shoes were the giveaway.

"They didn't realize in the Mayfield family – they take their shoes off before they go into the house," Spence said. "There were shoe prints in the carpet. They knew they were invaded but they didn't know by whom."

"Under the Patriot Act they have the power to install secret microphones and to bug the telephones and to put microphones under the kitchen table and under the bed," Spence said. "One is never given the opportunity to determine what they have done, what they have taken and where they have disseminated this information. They went into his papers, copied his computers, took his DNA."

"The press was at hand when the FBI came in to arrest him, including a reporter from a national magazine," Spence said. "It was leaked to the press, which may be in violation of federal criminal laws that deal with privacy."

Spence said the settlement precludes him from pursuing that potential violation.

Spence said it also was upsetting that the investigation violated attorney-client privilege; they looked at his client's papers. "This is a horrible thing. If we give the attorney information, it is secret," he said. "It can't be obtained by the court or anybody else. It's as sacred as the parishioner-priest privilege."

Spence said arrogance of the FBI was key to its shortcomings.

"The thing that makes this thing so bad, so very bad, is that the Spanish police told the FBI that they had made a mistake and that this was not Mayfield's fingerprint," he said. "When you talk to the infallible FBI and tell them they've made a mistake – that's heresy."

Spence said the FBI flew a crew to Spain to convince investigators there that they were wrong, the FBI was right. The Europeans would not budge.

The incident is troubling because the charge Mayfield potentially faced carried the death penalty. "Consider what would have happened if the Spanish National Police had not remained solid in their position," Spence said. "You then go into court with the average jury who has been told by the FBI it doesn't make mistakes and that fingerprints are an absolute science."

He criticized the FBI culture and prosecutors in general. "You have people in the organization, like in any government prosecutor's office, who want to be able to put the big trophy on the wall and to be able to say, 'I solved the train in Spain case,'" Spence said.

The FBI contested that its agents were power hungry. "The Justice Dept.'s Office of the Inspector General found no evidence of misconduct on the part of any FBI employees involved in this investigation," the agency said in a statement.

The FBI's most recent apology states, "The United States acknowledges that the investigation and arrest were deeply upsetting to [the Mayfield family]."

Spence said the issue goes beyond a botched investigation or the misidentification of fingerprints. He said those in power are abusing events to gain more authority.

"Fear is a powerful motivation," Spence said. "Nobody has been better of making us afraid, of terrorizing us, than the power structure. By terrorizing us they can pass such acts as the Patriot Act."

The FBI that "there was no evidence of misuse of the Patriot Act....The Act did not affect the scope of the FBI's use of FISA surveillance or searches."

Spence said the Patriot Act is undemocratic and that he was stifled when asked to testify to Congress about it.

"When the Patriot Act came up for renewal, [Democrat U.S. Rep. John] Conyers asked me to come testify about the Mayfield case so the public could have some idea of what's going on.

"The day before I was to appear I got a call from the lawyer representing the [Democrat] minority," Spence said. "I'm sorry, Mr. Spence, but the Republican majority has read what you are going to testify to," the lawyer told him.

"When I got that response I sent a press release to every major news force in the country," Spence said. "There was not one that picked that news story up."

Spence said the loss of rights in this country inspired him to write his latest book, *Bloodthirsty Bitches and Pious Pimps of Power*. He said he can't get on a talk show to promote it.

"And so we have a very precarious condition which can lead us into what I call the Fourth Reich," Spence said. Mussolini predicted the Fourth Reich would occur when "government and corporations became indistinguishable."

"That's what we really have today," he said. "Because we are afraid, we are angry. The average person feels helpless -- 'What can I do?'"

"Freedom," Spence said, "requires a little bit of danger. You have to agree to a little bit of danger to be free."

-- Jackson Hole (Wyoming) News, Dec. 6, 2006

Ed.: Gerry Spence represented Randy Weaver and Kevin Harris, who were charged with murdering federal agents in the Ruby

Ridge incident. Weaver and Harris were acquitted. Ron Horiuchi, the FBI sniper who killed Weaver's unarmed wife, Vicki, was never indicted.

Kofi and U.N. "Ideals"

When Kofi Annan was named Secretary General 10 years ago, he did so as the candidate of reform. Seven years later we learned that he had presided over the greatest bribery scheme in history, known as Oil for Food. Benon Sevan, Mr. Annan's confidant in charge of the program, received \$160,000 in Iraqi kickbacks. Annan's chief of staff ordered potentially incriminating documents to be destroyed. Annan and his deputy, Louise Frechette, were both aware of the kickback scheme but failed to report it to the Security Council, as their fiduciary duties required. However, we haven't yet learned whether the senior Annan illegally helped his son Kojo obtain a discounted Mercedes, an issue on which the Secretary General has stonewalled reporters.

Earlier this year Annan was forced to place eight senior U.N. procurement officials on leave pending investigations on bribery and other charges. The head of the U.N. budget-oversight committee was indicted this year on money-laundering charges. Another procurement official, pled guilty to skimming nearly \$1 million off U.N. contracts. The U.N.'s own office of Internal Oversight found that U.N. peacekeeping operations had mismanaged some \$300 million in expenditures.

Mr. Annan's response to all this has been a model of blame-shifting, obfuscation and patently insincere *mea culpas*.

Annan came to office after a stint as head of U.N. peacekeeping operations, during which period 7,000 Bosnians were massacred at Srebrenica and 800,000 Tutsis were massacred in Rwanda, both of which were facilitated by the nonfeasance of U.N. peacekeepers. It was later revealed that Annan's office explicitly forbade peacekeepers from raiding Hutu arms caches in Rwanda before the genocide.

The world's worst man-made humanitarian catastrophes have since taken place in Zimbabwe, North Korea, Congo and Darfur. In the Congo, U.N. peacekeepers haven't stopped the bloodshed, but they have made themselves notorious as sexual predators.

By insisting that only the U.N. could protect vulnerable populations, Annan has made vulnerable people hostage to predatory regimes with seats at the U.N. and made it all the more difficult for the world to act. Compare the fate of the Kosovars--rescued from the Serbs by U.S. military action undertaken without U.N. consent--with that of the Darfuris, who are at the mercy of militias supported by the Sudanese government, which has effectively blocked serious international intervention.

Mr. Annan came to power at a moment when it was at least plausible to believe that a properly reformed U.N. could serve the purposes it was originally meant to serve: to be a guarantor of collective security and a moral compass in global affairs. Mr. Annan's legacy is that nobody can entertain those hopes today.

-- Excerpted from a *Wall Street Journal* editorial Dec. 14

Ed.: The WSJ forgot that Kofi and the U.N. want our guns. Then U.N. "peacekeepers" can protect us, our wives and daughters ala the Congolese, Tutsis and Darfuris. Protection sounds good, no?

NRA treachery foiled (1975)

....*Guns & Ammo*, meanwhile, had uncovered a startling bit of news. In its April, 1975, issue, Washington correspondent C. E. Clayton revealed that "high officials" of the National Rifle Association were "considering a plan that would license every gun owner in the country. What's more the proposal would apparently have the NRA be the federal government's official 'licenser.'" NRA Executive Vice President, General Maxwell E. Rich (ret.), later conceded that such a proposal had indeed been circulated at NRA headquarters, but that it "definitely was not presented to the NRA Board of Directors...."

More than two thousand NRA members crowded into the Cincinnati Convention-Exposition Center for the association's annual meeting. Only life members were entitled to vote. They voted to oust Maxwell Rich. They voted to oust most of Rich's management team. They voted a one-year suspension of further spending on the Raton Outdoor Center. They voted to block the new headquarters at Colorado Springs. And with their voices rising to the rafters, they voted Harlon B. Carter into the most powerful post of the American gunnery [Executive VP]. -- *American Heritage*, "God Guns and

In the beginning of change the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. -- Mark Twain

N.J. Senate Bans Pastor

The Rev. Vincent Fields says he didn't plan to speak out against same-sex marriage when he offered the invocation at the opening of the Senate session.

At first, he prayed for wisdom and understanding for the senators. But then, the Absecon pastor recalled, "the Holy Spirit took over, and I had to pray what he said."

"We curse the spirit that would come to bring about same-sex marriage," Fields said. "We ask you to just look over this place today, cause them to be shaken in their very heart in uprightness, Lord, to do that is right before you."

Asked if he felt Fields had gone out of bounds, Senate President Richard Codey said, "Absolutely. Positively. Yes. He will not be back."

The Senate opens every voting session, there were 15 this year, with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation given by a pastor, who receives \$100.

Fields also was criticized for citing Jesus twice in his prayer.

Fields said he thought he acted appropriately. "We're living in a time now where we've got to take a stand spiritually," he said. "...We're literally setting ourselves up for God to turn his back on us, and if we do, we'll have the chaos in other countries, in this country."

He said he didn't expect to speak about same-sex marriage. He was in the middle of the invocation, he said, and "all of a sudden, he (the Holy Spirit) just took over. Boom! I don't even know exactly. My wife told me afterward, 'You were being nice and tiptoeing and all of a sudden, Boom!'"

He said he didn't care that Codey said he won't be asked back. "Not at all," he said. "It's better just to get the voice across."

-- Newark *Star-Ledger*, Dec. 13, 2006

What fills my mind with the deepest anxiety & concern, that the conduct of any of the members of Congress should be such, as to create in my mind strong suspicions of their moral and political virtue. — Andrew Adams, Continental Congress Delegate, correspondence to Jonathan Trumbull, Sr., Sept. 5, 1778

Guantanamo, a Thriving Development

By Corine Lesnes

Guantanamo has never been so well off. Since the arrival of the "enemy combatants," the population has tripled. Two years ago, the only way to get there was by military transport. Now two little airlines service "Gitmo."

The flight to the southeastern extremity of Cuba lasts three hours, so as to avoid Cuban air space. From the air, you can see Camp Delta's chain link fences. The fenced-in blocs of Camps 1, 2 and 3 are squeezed up against one another. One can distinguish the high-security Camp 5. And Camp 6, also with solid walls, not yet completed. The prison has held up to 770 "enemy combatants." It still holds 427, not one of whom has been tried.

Journalists are accompanied everywhere. "From now on," the escort says, "you are in a controlled environment."

One must commit in writing to not attempt to enter into communication with the detainees. Every night, the "civilian" from the intelligence services reviews any photos taken during the day. It is forbidden to show the coast line: the enemy could locate the electronic transducers hidden in the sand. Also prohibited are badges, antennae, the faces of detainees or guards, but photographers may frame hands, backs, or feet.

The cute organizers put up a good front, but one feels they start out already-beaten. They've seen several hundred journalists go through. Each time, they have the same disappointment when they receive the articles. "Awful, as usual," says the captain in charge of public relations. According to him, journalists don't realize how lucky they are. "When was the last time you got to visit a prisoners of war camp? Just being here," he declares, "is a success in itself."

With a territory of 116 square kilometers, Guantanamo Bay covers a little more surface than Paris, but the middle is under water, which makes it considerably smaller. The Cubans have kept the core of the bay. The Americans only have the handles of the shoreline. To go from the airstrip to the base, you have to take the ferry. Two years ago, it was a little coastal vessel. Now it's a ship that can transport trucks, vans, earth-moving machinery.

Before the "global war" against terrorism, Guantanamo was a drowsy naval base, rented from Cuba since 1903. It was peopled with US Navy sailors and their families, some 2,300 people in total.

Now, the population is 8,000. There are about 2,000 construction workers from Jamaica and the Philippines, and 1800 soldiers in charge of the prison.

The U.S. devotes \$95 million a year to Guantanamo's upkeep. After they've replaced the metal bars with PVC fixtures, the military have other projects. Without waiting to know how the Supreme Court will rule on the new exceptional tribunals, the administration plans to construct three courtrooms to hold war crimes trials at the same time, lodgings for close to 1,000 military, lawyers, and journalists, a garage for about 100 official vehicles and an 800-seat cafeteria ... by July 1, 2007.

The "enemy combatants" prison is open to the sky, and the walls are chain-link fences. The military no longer wear their ritual identification. Consequently, one must be satisfied with the initials inscribed on the uniforms: SMO, DMO, Senior Military Officer, Deputy Military Officer ...

Camp Delta is also in full expansion mode. At the detainees' library, the officer, a certain "Maggie," prepares for the future. "Our objective is to have 20,000 books." For the moment, the shelves contain 5,000, including ten volumes of Harry Potter in Arabic. "The detainees love anything that has to do with nature," says the librarian. "And also soccer magazines. As for Harry Potter, perhaps that's a way to escape."

With similar good conscience, the medical personnel (100 people) continue to force-feed hunger strikers. Two men have refused to eat for 400 days. Three others began two weeks ago. The medical officer in charge explains that his priority is "the detainees' well-being" and that it's out of the question to allow them to die. "They're very cooperative," he asserts. "They offer their nostrils themselves. They thank us. They've promised themselves not to eat anything until they're home again. But they don't want to die." Kellogg, Brown and Root, the Halliburton subsidiary that built Camp 5, is busy finishing Camp 6, a concrete building for 176 detainees. It is flanked with air-conditioned watchtowers.

Camp 6 would have already entered into service had there not been a revolt in Camp 4 on May 18. The detainees smeared the floor of their cell with soap. When the guards arrived, they slipped and were greeted by thrown projectiles, made from lamps and surveillance camera mounts.

Since then, anti-skid floors have been installed at Camp 4, and

Camp 6 has been transformed into a high-security installation.

Camp 5 is Guantanamo's chief ornament, modeled on an Indiana prison. It's a prison almost without guards, organized into 4 wings under surveillance from a single turret in the center of the circle. The computer manages everything, even the showers and air-conditioning.

Some 75 detainees are there, probably including the presumed brain of the September 11, 2001 attacks, who arrived September 6 from the CIA's secret prisons.

--*Le Monde*, Nov. 29, translated by Leslie Thatcher

Montezuma's Revenge?

E Coli outbreaks are not random...and the government knows this.

In early spring of 2006 I found several postings on the net by illegal alien groups calling on all illegal alien food handlers / pickers / and restaurant workers to give legal Americans food poisoning by using their own feces.

The posts I found stated that all the illegals should give Americans "Montezuma's Revenge" which is what Mexicans call severe diarrhea.

E Coli gives you severe diarrhea.

I REPORTED THIS DIRECTLY TO I.C.E. (Immigration and customs enforcement) at 1-866-347-2423.

I spoke with a live operator who took the report including the URL for each post I had found, several were located on the <http://www.aztlan.net/> web site.

THIS WAS REPORTED TO ICE BEFORE THE FIRST SPINACH E COLI OUTBREAK.

All the original posts are now gone, I assume the Gov. got them pulled, BUT THEY ARE DOING NOTHING ELSE ABOUT IT.

ALL THE E COLI OUTBREAKS HAVE BEEN A SPECIFIC STRAIN, CARRIED ONLY IN HUMAN FECES AND IN SOME ANIMALS FECES.

You Connect The Dots

Maybe the Government thinks it will stop when the new Dem. Congress gives them all Amnesty and nobody will be the wiser.

WELL I KNOW, AND NOW YOU DO AS WELL.

WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE THE GOVERNMENT COULD CARE LESS ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES SAFETY.

-- For rules governing membership and posting in this forum please visit <http://www.amatterofjustice.org/amoj/10policy.cfm>

AMJO Board

Rural Safety

A widow who lives alone in a Wiltshire farmhouse has taken to sleeping with a Smith & Wesson Saturday Night Special under her pillow.

A retired civil servant living in a remote house in Cornwall believes in the efficacy of a small-calibre .22 pistol. It was easy to buy without a licence or proof of identity in rural France, where they are used to kill vermin. The .22 is also an assassin's weapon - once the round has entered the cranium, it will ricochet about as it looks for an exit, devastating brain tissue in its wake.

Many country people consider a sawn-off 12-bore to be the most effective and easily available short-range weapon. A farmer in Suffolk told me that, for added impact, he pierces the crimped end of the cartridge and pours in warm wax which sets and creates a mass of lead shot.

Owning a weapon is becoming a habit for rural homeowners who feel unprotected now that so many police stations have closed.

Baseball bats, swords, machetes, Mace and firearms are kept beneath the bed or close to hand by many people.

In spite of Tony Blair's legislation against handguns, lethal weapons are easy to acquire in the countryside. Often they are handed down through the family. But increasingly they are brought back from Europe by car.

Mace, pepper spray and metal-spring batons, illegal here, are easily and lawfully acquired in Europe, while high-calibre pistols can be bought in the Czech Republic. Scotland Yard recently investigated a French company selling arms through the internet and found that most British customers considered themselves to be law-abiding, often young couples worried about personal safety. Police searches of their homes revealed a wide selection of weaponry.

For those who cling to the notion that an Englishman's home is his castle, a new weapon will soon be available to help deter intruders. Designed by BowTech in Oregon, USA, the Stryker crossbow will be on sale in Europe by mid-January.

It is a precision hunting crossbow complete with a multiple reticule, red dot 1x30 scope nightsight, 175lb draw weight, binary cam technology and the power to skewer a hoodie [thug] at 50 metres. It fires bodkin-tipped 425 grain bolts at 405ft per second and will cost a little under £1,000 [\$2000].

Strangely enough, it's legal and fits neatly beneath the bed.

-- *The First Post*, Dec. 26

An Outrage We All Need to know About

By Bob Smith

Say you've been arrested. You get one free phone call. If you're lucky, you reach someone useful. If not, too bad.

You can only make collect calls to friends or family members -- if they have an "account" and are pre-approved to receive, and pay for, your calls. Locally, setting up the account costs \$50. Later they'll find out that they're being charged an arm and a leg... roughly 6 times what we normally pay for calls. You'll also discover that your calls are monitored, taped, interrupted with messages (at your family's expense), or disconnected (with an extra charge for reconnection).

But why would our own governments allow such a practice? The answer is... they cut deals with the phone service providers.

The Center for Constitutional Rights, which has filed three lawsuits challenging such corruption in New York, alleges: "In more than forty states, prison systems rely on monopolistic telephone contracts to reap huge profits at the expense of families and friend trying to remain in contact with their loved ones in prison. In some cases, these people are charged as much as 60% above market rates for collect calls, in a practice that violates federal and state anti-trust laws. The N.Y. State Department of Correctional Service has made \$175 million off this backdoor tax on prison families since the contract started in 1996. Nevada got an estimated \$2.9 million last year from calls made by 10,000 inmates. New York, with 67,000 inmates, got \$20 million."

What effect do you suppose being able to profit from the families of prisoners has on the correctional system? Does it give government an incentive to put more people into detention? Does it give them an incentive to keep them there longer? This scheme gives jailers a source of

income they don't have to ask legislatures to approve... a source that can be kept under the radar.

Government has a monopoly on force, and they can grant a monopoly on telephone service. They can arrest and detain whomever they choose. With perverse incentives, abuse is not just likely, it's guaranteed. Like all government abuse, it will continue until enough citizens and organizations learn about it, and spend their own time and money to try to stop it... while the abusers fight back using our own tax money.

Government of the people, by the people, and for the people? Not even close... **we have government on the backs of the people.**

-- No Force, No Fraud Dec. 23

Jersey City Gun Ban Struck Down

On December 13 New Jersey Superior Court Judge Maurice Gallipoli declared Jersey City's one gun a month handgun rationing law null and void, holding that it violates state pre-emption, equal protection, and was "arbitrary and capricious."

Ordinance # 06-116 rationed handguns to persons pre-certified by the State as non-criminals after undergoing extensive background checks.

"Rationing gun sales to law abiding citizens is about as effective at reducing crime as rationing alcohol to responsible drinkers is at reducing drunk driving accidents," said Scott Bach, an NRA Board Member and President of the Association of N.J. Rifle & Pistol Clubs, which initiated the lawsuit against Jersey City.

The ordinance conflicted with State regulation of handgun purchases, which is impermissible under New Jersey's pre-emption doctrine. Once the State has spoken on an issue, municipalities are precluded from enacting conflicting regulations.

Under N.J.'s extensive gun control laws – among the toughest in the nation – handgun purchasers must first obtain a separate government-issued permit for each handgun prior to purchase. Each permit is issued only after an extensive, costly, and lengthy background investigation of the buyer. Once permits have been issued, the State does not impose further restriction at the point of sale, but there must be a permit for each handgun purchased.

Jersey City's ordinance conflicted with State law, unequally treating Jersey City licensed dealers and

residents differently than other parts of the State. The City Council passed the law by a vote of 6-2, despite a mountain of evidence that the law would not reduce crime because it targeted only law abiding purchasers. The President of the City Council even called the measure "feel good" legislation that would probably not reduce crime – before voting *in favor* of the law.

"No one wants to reduce crime more than honest gun owners," said Bach. "But to reduce crime, you have to target the criminal, not the tool, because the criminal mind will always find another tool. We need tough prosecutors and judges to end plea-bargaining and impose tough sentences against criminals, with no parole. Honest gun owners are not the problem."

-- ANJRPC, "The official NRA State Association"

Spy Drones to Fly Over Cities

Honeywell is developing a micro flying spy drone that would be used for civilian law enforcement!

The device, nicknamed "Dragon Eye", carrying video cameras and other sensors is being tested at Honeywell's Albuquerque, NM plant.

The first round of testing on the Micro Air Vehicle has been completed, reports Bob Martin of CBS affiliate KRQE.

The battery powered craft can stay in the air for 50-60 minutes at a time, and moves around at up to 55 kilometers an hour.

The MAV has flown more than 200 successful flights, including flying in a representative urban environment.

"If there is an emergency, you could provide 'eyes' on whatever the emergency is, for police or Homeland Security," explains Vaughn Fulton of Honeywell.

In the meantime, the U.S. Army has prepared a promotional video showing the craft zooming over war-zone streets.

"It has the same system most fighter jets would have," explains Fulton.

"Dragon Eye" will be used for reconnaissance, security and target acquisition operations in open, rolling, complex and urban terrain; it will be equipped with Global Positioning Satellite.

Troops in Iraq could get the craft in a year or two.

The spy drone would be deployed for domestic use shortly thereafter.

-- Drudge Report, Nov. 13, 2005

"Government Launches New Crime Fighting Tool"

VICTORIA – British Columbia is the first province in Canada to use a new crime-fighting technology, Automatic Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR), to target both traffic violators and stolen vehicles, Solicitor General John Les announced.

"We are taking back B.C. roads with this phenomenal technology," said Les. "We're targeting car thieves and prohibited drivers. It's all part of the future of policing in B.C."

ALPR is a camera and computer database system. Cameras mounted in police cars capture images of licence plates on vehicles on public highways. If the license plate does not show a violation, the image will be purged after three months. If the licence plate shows a violation, the image is retained by police for two years.

The Integrated Municipal Provincial Auto Crime Team (IMPACT) ran a pilot project where several ALPR-equipped police vehicles gathered baseline data.

"Early results are amazing," said Les. "In one hour, a police vehicle captured images of 600 plates and on average got one hit for every 60 plates." Nine per cent of those hits were associated with a stolen vehicle, 7 per cent with a prohibited driver, 25 per cent with an unlicensed or uninsured vehicle and 59 per cent with an unlicensed driver.

Air One, B.C.'s first dedicated, fully equipped traffic safety helicopter, will carry out air surveillance and track the vehicle to a safe location where ground units can apprehend.

-- Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General press release Nov. 9, 2006, www.baitcar.com

Commentary by a Licensed Jersey Gun Owner

Here's what may be coming to your local Police Department soon.

"HIT"!!!!!! The owner of this vehicle is a registered "licensed" firearms owner, i.e. "NOT" an "illegal" owner, "NOT" a "Criminal", yet. OK, let's pull him over and see what we can find--overdue inspection? tail light out? cracked windshield? da-da-da-da-da Oh, he seems to be a bit nervous. Maybe he left a hollow point round in his pants pocket after hunting; maybe his ammo isn't locked in a separate container; maybe he's not going directly to or from hunting, the range, the gunsmith or place of business to his residence. Maybe the hapless bastard even left a round in the chamber;

maybe he had a few beers with lunch; maybe he'll have a heart attack and die while we're tossing him.

Maybe I'll get a promotion from my shoulder slapping, politically connected Chief; - my picture and story in the paper, maybe even on TV, detailing how I helped get "another gun and 'Gun Nut' 'Off The Streets.'" Oh I can see it now, Mayor Mike Bloomberg giving me the key to the city; Senator Teddy 'Boy' Kennedy handing me a Long Island Iced Tea, Barney Franks showing me his new thong. Surely this falls under the banner of "Serving and Protecting", just like the gun confiscations in New Orleans, - ri-i-ight-t-t-t-t???

So Senator Charles Schumer, "what's wrong with registering gun owners like we register cars," as you are so fond of saying?????: "We are going to hammer guns on the anvil of relentless legislative strategy! We are going to beat guns into submission." ---- Then U.S. Representative Charles Schumer, NBC Nightly News 11/30/93

One Giant Bird Cage

By Chuck Baldwin

The first bill passed by the House of Representatives this year was H.R. 1, "Implementing the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act."

The 9/11 Commission proffered 41 recommendations ostensibly for the purpose of making the U.S. more secure against terrorist attack. But does this bill make America more secure? And if so, at what cost?

I well remember my father telling me, "A bird in a cage is safe, but it is not free." That pretty much summarizes H.R. 1. The law will create a federal police leviathan that will place the American people into a giant bird cage.

The 9/11 report recommends identity checkpoints on America's roads and highways. Mandatory biometric iris and finger scanning systems at all American airports and seaports. The creation of a national I.D. card. The expansion of "no-fly" and "watch" lists. The implementation of screening for all airline passengers. Invasive body

scanners. The federal takeover of publicly owned communications networks. Increased surveillance of Americans' financial records and activities.

In addition, H.R. 1 mandates that America becomes increasingly meddlesome in foreign nations. One recommendation requires that the U.S. "defends Muslims against tyrants and criminals . . ."

Are we also obligated to defend Buddhists and Shintoists too?

Another recommendation wants the U.S. to "generously [support] a new International Youth Opportunity Fund" for the purpose of "building and operating primary and secondary schools in . . . Muslim states." How many billions and even trillions of taxpayer dollars will that cost? Schools that will no doubt teach Muslim doctrine. There is certainly no shrill cry against the separation of Mosque and state heard here.

Yet another recommendation requires "global border security" using "extensive international cooperation." Does this mean using foreign troops to guard our borders? Are we supposed to believe that our own National Guard and Border Patrol are unable to protect our borders, and, therefore, we need foreign troops to do the job? Balderdash! The fact is, the Bush administration simply does not allow us to protect our borders. Perhaps this recommendation in the 9/11 Commission Report helps explain why.

One of the most egregiously extreme recommendations is for the implementation of the Clinton Administration's brainchild called Continuity of Government (COG). In a nutshell, COG envisions a terrorist attack that would precipitate the suspension of the U.S. Constitution. Specifically, COG would authorize Congress to appoint its own members, including those in state legislatures, without a vote of the people.

The American people need to heed Winston Churchill's warning: "If you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed, if you will not fight when your victory will be sure

and not so costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance for survival. There may be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no chance of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

.....America, are you listening?

* * *

"Just because you're not interested in politics, doesn't mean politics is not interested in you."

"Anyone who believes there's any difference between the Republicans and the Democrats has a serious mental disorder."

Something to Keep in Mind

The philosophy of the American Revolution contains three basic premises. One is that rights come from God and are unalienable. Two is that men create governments to protect those rights. Three is that when government fails to protect those rights and becomes abusive of those rights, men have a right and even a duty to overthrow that government and create a new one.

The Bill of Rights, which is a set of ten amendments added after the Constitution was ratified in order to reassure opponents of the Constitution that the new government would not usurp their rights, simply forbids the federal government from abusing or abridging already-existing rights. The right to free speech and all the others existed prior to the Constitution and prior to the Bill of Rights.

It is also good to keep in mind that the Constitution is a textual document, not a "living document." That was a false metaphor intended to provide cover for judges to legislate and amend by interpretation so that the Constitution would mean whatever judges said it meant. Not so. It means what it says.

-- From Charley Reese's column, Sept. 19, 2005

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